

characteristic strongly defined Y-shaped chitinisation in the apical area; in all three genera this is connected with the posterior margin of the wing towards the apex by a strong vein not figured in Heller's plate.

As regards the synonymy of the species the identity of *F. adelotopus* Heller with *F. blattoides* Blair is practically certain, the first-mentioned name having priority; that of *F. pilosus* Pic with *F. chatanayi* Blair, both hairy insects, the former described from Calcutta, the latter of unknown locality, is uncertain without comparison of specimens.

London.

April 1919.

#### A NEW ABERRATION OF *COSYMBIA* (*EPHYRA*) *PENDULARIA* CL.

BY F. C. WOODFORDE, B.A., F.E.S.

I obtained ova of this species from a female captured in North Staffordshire in May 1917. The offspring emerged in May 1918, most of them being intermediate between the typical form and ab. *subroseata* mihi (which Mr. Prout informs me that he does not now consider to be identical with ab. *decoraria* Newman), but one of them was different from any of the others and from any other form of the species that I have seen. The ground-colour of this specimen is darkish grey. The 1st and 2nd lines are indicated by rows of black dots rather larger than usual, the 2nd in both primary and secondary wings being bordered by a narrow whitish band, faint on the inner side, but conspicuous on the distal side. The ocelli are very conspicuous. A very narrow, indistinct reddish band crosses the centre of the wing. The cilia are whitish. The insect so much resembles a dark form of *C. orbicularia* Hb. that I propose naming it ab. *orbiculoides*. It is now in the collection of the Hope Department, Oxford University Museum.

Oxford.

April 1919.

#### A NEW BRITISH HETEROPEZINE FLY.

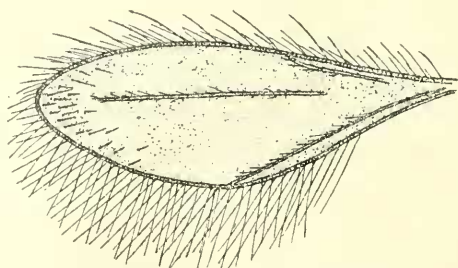
BY F. W. EDWARDS, B.A., F.E.S.

In Messrs. Bagnall and Harrison's admirable Preliminary Catalogue of British Cecidomyiidae (Trans. Ent. Soc. Lond. 1917, pp. 346-426) only one member of the subfamily *Heteropezinae* is included, and even that has not been determined specifically. Doubtless many occur with us; I have myself come across their paedogenetic larvae in several localities under bark, and once also in a fungus, while Dr. D. Keilin

informs me that he has found and reared a species of *Miastor* near Cambridge. But the species are difficult to rear and cannot be named from larvae alone. I have, however, also been fortunate enough to obtain a number of adults of one apparently undescribed species, which it may be of interest to name and record. The specimens were all taken on windows in my house at Letchworth, chiefly during June 1917, a few in August 1917, and one or two in June 1918. While conforming to Kieffer's description of the genus *Leptosyna*, they show obvious differences from the two known European species, and may be described as follows:—

*Leptosyna setipennis*, n. sp.

♂. Body brownish yellow, long, and narrow. Wings transparent. Palpi composed of a single joint, which is retracted within the mouth-cavity and bears a single terminal bristle about as long as the joint. Antennae with 2 + 10 joints, the last joint bearing an appendage resembling another joint, as long as but narrower than the basal part. First scapal joint with a single long ventral bristle, second bare. Flagellar joints with verticils of about



*Leptosyna setipennis*, n. sp. Wing.

8 hairs which are about three times as long as the joints; the first two have one or two additional long hairs near the base. All flagellar joints except the first and last drawn out into necks which are almost as long as the more swollen basal portion; at the base of the neck there appears to be a small round pore, just below which are inserted the verticillate hairs. Genital claspers barely twice as long as broad, with a short thick terminal spine. *Legs* rather slender; femora scarcely, tibiae not at all thickened towards the tip. All tarsi alike; proportionate lengths of joints 1:2:1.5:1:1. Claws simple; empodium barely half as long as the claws. *Wings* slightly pointed, with a very long posterior fringe; the surface appears minutely dotted when seen under a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " objective, while towards the tip are about 20 suberect hairs directed towards the base of the wing. Sc terminating before, Cu slightly beyond the middle of the wing; R obsolete both basally and apically; all veins setose except base of Cu.

♀. Antennal joints almost globular, without neck, hairs inserted just

beyond middle; appendage of last joint shorter. Terminal lamellae of abdomen oval, barely twice as long as broad. Hairs at wing tip slightly more numerous. Otherwise as in the ♂.

Length of body, 0·9-1 mm.; of wing, 1·0 mm.

The genus *Leptosyna* is interesting as representing the extreme of vein-reduction in a fully-winged fly. The most noteworthy point about our species is the presence of surface hairs at the tip of the wing, which will necessitate a slight remodelling of Kieffer's definition of the sub-family *Heteropezinae*. Presumably these hairs are absent in the two species described by Kieffer, since he does not mention them, but *L. setipennis* may also be distinguished from *L. quercus* by the radial vein (cubitus of Kieffer) not reaching the tip of the wing, and from *L. acutipennis* by the slender femora and tibiae and the different proportionate lengths of the tarsal joints.

*L. setipennis* is one of the smallest, if not actually the smallest, of British Diptera. A few species of *Culicoides* and *Ceratopogon* may be shorter in length of body, but are of stouter build. The elongate form of *Leptosyna* gives it a rather striking resemblance to the *Mymaridae*.

56 Norton Road, Letchworth.

March 21st, 1919.

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#### ON THE BRITISH SPECIES OF *EUPELIX* GERMAR.

BY JAMES EDWARDS, F.E.S.

It has been customary to segregate specimens of this genus by the relative length of the head, thus: short (*cuspidata* Fab.), medium (*producta* Germ.), and long (*depressa* Germ.). This, however, is unsatisfactory, because these insects, following the rule in *Jassina*, have the crown of the female distinctly longer in proportion than that of the male: consequently, the short-headed category comprises only the males of *cuspidata*. Female *cuspidata* and male *producta*, of which we are certain, have the crown of medium length; and the really long-headed section, of which I have never seen a male, includes two kinds differing in the relative proportion of the last ventral segment to the preceding one.

Our present knowledge is summarized in the following table:—

- 1 (2) Crown broader than long, the sides convex. Male: upper apical angle of side lobes of pygofer blunt but distinct; style broader than that of *producta*, truncate at the apex . . . . . *cuspidata* Fab.
- 2 (1) Sides of crown not convex.
- 3 (6) Crown as broad as long, the sides a little indented at the ocelli.